

WYCOMBE MAKE FINE RALLY IN SECOND HALF

Sports Mail Special Report

MUCH-CHANGED Dulwich Hamlet gave Wycombe Wanderers plenty of first half trouble and led 1-0 at the interval in their home Isthmian League match this afternoon. Wanderers rallied in the second half, however, and finally won 2-1.

Dulwich Hamlet: Darvill; Merritt, Kent, Brown, Skipper, Tolson; Field, Wootton, Clay, Purser, Vail.

Wycombe Wanderers: Syrett; Beck, Moring; Truett, Fisher, Fryer; Rockell, Trott, Bates, Howson, Tomlin.

Referee: J. H. Robinson (London).

Hamlet soon threatened the Wycombe goal and Syrett had to be on his toes to tip Purser's header over the bar.

A fast cross-field pass led to a Dulwich goal. Teenage centre forward CLAY leapt high to nod home Vail's centre in the seventh minute.

Cup hero Bates was being

given little scope and the persistent Trott was the most dangerous of the Wycombe attackers. A brave try by Tomlin was the nearest Wycombe came to scoring.

The Wycombe attack lacked bite and thrust, the strong tackling Dulwich half backs quickly stifling attacks.

Hamlet began to shoot more often and the lively Vail had bad luck with two shots which beat Syrett. Fryer tried hard, but unsuccessfully, to get his forwards moving.

Bates seized the opportunity to send Trott through, but the inside right was robbed in the act of shooting. Wycombe, on balance, were unlucky to be behind.

Just on half-time the Hamlet

goal had escapes as shots by Trott and Bates were charged down.

Half-time: Dulwich 1, Wycombe 0.

A determined, more aggressive Wycombe Wanderers looked a different side in the second half.

After 63 minutes TROTT got the equaliser with a first-time shot.

With ten minutes to go Wanderers took a deserved lead. Full back Beck tore down the wing and surprised Hamlet with his quick centre. The ball flashed off SKIPPER'S shoulder and into the net.

RESULT:

DULWICH HAMLET 1
WYCOMBE WAND. 2

BABES BOW TO WYCOMBE

Dulwich 1, Wycombe 2

ALTHOUGH Wycombe well deserved their win the honours went to the young Hamlet side. With three 17-year-olds in attack they were ahead after nine minutes and had much the better of the opening half.

Just after the interval a header from Paul Bates was kicked off the Hamlet line by Reg Merritt with Dave Darvill out of goal.

Wanderers' half-backs were completely in control in midfield, but Hamlet's teenage attack—average age 18—suffered only in the inside positions.

There Ray Wootton and Geoff Purser were inclined to play too close, but the 17-year-old wingers Norman Field on the right and Terry Vail were in great form. The other 17-year-old, centre-forward Mike Clay, wandered cleverly to the wings to pick up the loose ball, but lack of experience in the line meant that the middle was often bare when the centre arrived.

Hamlet's goal was beautifully contrived. Dulwich right-half Alan Tolson found Vail with a long cross-field pass and from the perfect centre Clay had an easy task to nod the ball past Denis Syrett.

The equaliser in the 63rd minute was scored by that grand worker and opportunist Cliff Trott, for once left unmarked in front of goal.

The winner was a tragedy for Hamlet's centre-half Jim Skipper.

Wanderers' right-back John Beck took the ball right through and his hard centre from near the line was deflected from Skipper's shoulder into his own net.